

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-20 OMB-01 NIC-01 EUR-25 RSR-01 /137 W

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R 061550Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3122

INFO USCINCSO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJ: ELECTORAL SCENE: PERON ISABELITA TICKET

1. SUMMARY: NO ONE IS TAKING ISABEL DE PERON'S CANDIDACY VERY SERIOUSLY. WAY IS STILL OPEN FOR PERON-BALBIN TICKET, ALTHOUGH PROSPECTS FOR SUCH A COALITION NOW APPEAR TO BE REMOTE. MANRIQUE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL BE CANDIDATE. END SUMMARY.

2. JUSTICIALISTA PARTY CONVENTION AUGUST 4 NOMINATED JUAN PERON AS PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, HIS WIFE ISABELITA AS HIS RUNNING MATE. PERON DID NOT APPEAR AT CONVENTION; RATHER, ISABELITA THANKED DELEGATES FOR HIM, EXPLAINING HE COULD NOT DO SO PERSONALLY FOR REASONS OF HEALTH.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, PERON HIMSELF COMMENTED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH HIS DOCTORS BEFORE ACCEPTING. QUESTIONED BY REPORTERS ON HER OWN CANDIDACY, ISABEL SIMPLY SAID "WE'LL HAVE TO SEE ABOUT THAT LATER".

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4. GENERAL CONSENSUS OF OPINION IS THAT ISABEL'S CANDIDACY IS PLOY ON PERON'S PART TO KEEP VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OPEN. SPECULATION IS THAT PERON HAS NOT MADE UP HIS MIND AS TO WHO RUNNING MATE WILL BE. ONCE HE HAS DONE SO, ISABEL CAN BE EXPECTED TO RESIGN HER OWN CANDIDACY IN FAVOR OF HIS CHOICE. SYMBOLIC DATE FOR SUCH ACTION WOULD BE AUGUST 22, DATE ON WHICH EVITA PERON GAVE UP HER OWN VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY BACK IN 1951-- AND JUST UNDER AUGUST 24 DEADLINE FOR FILING CANDIDACIES.

5. MEANWHILE, UCR IS WATCHING CAREFULLY DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN PERONIST RANKS. SEVERAL EMBASSY UCR CONTACTS HAVE EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT BALBIN NO LONGER EXPECTS PERON TO OFFER HIM CANDIDACY, AND ONE SOURCE HAS COMMENTED THAT BALBIN MAY HAVE SUGGESTED TO PERON IN ROUND-ABOUT FASHION THAT UCR INTENDS TO RUN ITS OWN SLATE.

6. FRANCISCO MANRIQUE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE INTENDS TO BE CANDIDATE AND IN CONVENTION OVER WEEKEND POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY NOMINATED MANRIQUE AND MARTINEZ RAYMONDA AS ITS CANDIDATES. AS IN PREVIOUS ELECTIONS, HOWEVER, THIS LED TO SPLIT IN PDP, WITH PARTY LEADER HORACIO THEDY AND HIS FACTION SUPPORTING HORA DEL PUEBLO RATHER THAN MANRIQUE.  
KREBS

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